

Amendments to the Specification:

Please make the following amendments to the specification. Material to be inserted in replacement paragraphs or sections is in underline, and material to be deleted is in ~~strikeout~~ or (if the deletion is of five or fewer consecutive characters or would be difficult to see) in double brackets [[]].

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Mounted in extension 24 in passage 30 is a single first RF port or connector 34 of a variety of commercial configurations that acts as an input RF connection. The RF connector 34 carries a first conductor 36 that passes through central passage 30. As will be apparent, the conductor 36 and the portions of the body 12 surrounding the passage 30 constitute a coaxial RF signal path, shown generally at 38, in the form of a transmission line 40. One transmission line end 40(1) is connected to connector 34 and another end 40(2) corresponds with body second end 18. The portion of the body forming passage 30, identified as an outer conductor 42, functions as a signal-return conductor that correspondingly shields conductor 36. It will be appreciated that other forms of conductor 42 may be provided, such as a separate electrically conductive sleeve or tube supported in an electrically conductive or dielectric body.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 23 and carrying over onto page 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

In a specific implementation for a specific value of N and a specific value of frequency, the length of each of the conductors 56 and the outer conductors 58 are selected so the conductive path from the common node 50 to each RF output connection, such as RF output connectors 64, has a length of one-fourth of the wavelength. Likewise the conductor 36 and outer conductor 42 have corresponding lengths. These lengths then control the length of the body 12 along the axis 14. As known, the impedance of a coaxial conductive path can be controlled by the spacing between a center conductor and a shielding conductor. Thus, the shape and size of the first conductor 36 and passage 30 defines the spacing between the shielding outer conductor 42 and the surface of the center conductor 36 to provide an impedance match between the RF input connector 34 and the impedance at the common node 50. The same holds true for the second signal paths 48 in passages 32.